

Revivals.

REPORTS FROM PRESBYTERIES:
Presented at the New School General Assembly, May 20, 1838.
Abridged from the Report in the N. Y. Evangelist.

NEWBURYPORT.—The narrative is limited to the first Presbyterian church in Newburyport. The state of religion has been more than usually interesting the past year. Twenty-five persons have been hopefully converted, and about the same number are inquiring. The Sabbath School is large and flourishing. The great objects of benevolence have received a liberal share of support, especially that of foreign missions.

TROY.—There have been revivals in many of the churches, in connection with special efforts. The cause of temperance is making gradual but sure progress, under the banner of total abstinence from intoxicating drinks. The Sabbath Schools are generally interesting, and prosperous; and by many of the churches, the Sabbath School concert is regularly observed. Missionary efforts are pursued regularly, the monthly concert observed, and the spirit of missions is gaining ground.

COLUMBIA.—The grace of God has been shed to some extent on several churches, and the work still continues. The Holy Ghost has stamped the work as peculiarly his own, by its silence and solemnity. The monthly concert is regularly observed; and the first Monday of the year was observed as a day of fasting and prayer, and in one instance was blest to the commencement of a revival. The Sabbath School has in some instances, been blessed to the conversion of youth.

OSAGE.—Several churches have enjoyed precious refreshings from the presence of the Lord.—The churches, to an unusual extent, are supplied with preaching. The general objects of benevolence are attended to. Sabbath Schools have been sustained in all the churches, and in many cases, greatly enlarged. The Sabbath, though much desecrated, is rising in the esteem of God's people.—The cause of temperance, on the total abstinence principle, is on the advance.

ONEIDA.—The churches have enjoyed the stated preaching of the gospel to an unusual degree. No pastor has been removed by the action of the Presbytery, while two have been installed. There has not been a general prevalence of revivals, yet God has not left us without witness. A number of churches have experienced powerful revivals, and in two of them the work still continues.

GENEVA.—There are within the bounds of this Presbytery, 39 congregations and 41 ministers. The churches are walking in the faith and fellowship of the gospel; and all the ministers, except those disabled by age or infirmity, are diligently employed in their appropriate work.

The past year has been one of almost unparalleled prosperity. With but few exceptions, the churches have enjoyed stated preaching, and increased in numbers and strength; and to some, large additions have been made. In many churches, there have been seasons of special revival. More than 400 members have been added this year, and in a number of congregations the interest still continues.

CHEMUNG.—No extensive revivals. In several congregations, an interesting state of things; numbers hopefully converted. Churches generally at peace. Monthly concert generally attended. Sabbath Schools increasing in interest. Various objects of benevolence receive attention. There is a growing desire that all the ministers of Christ should be of one mind.

CAYUGA.—There are in the bounds of this Presbytery 36 ministers, 30 congregations, 15 licentiates, and 5 candidates. The reasons why the ministers exceed the congregations, is, that the Auburn Theological Seminary is situated within its bounds, and a number of missionaries in the foreign field belong to this body. Seasons of special interest have been enjoyed in a number of churches. Great harmony has existed the past year. Congregations generally increasing in numbers and devoted to God, and on a number he has poured out the special influences of his Spirit; but no extravagance in measures nor heresy in doctrine has been known to exist. Sabbath Schools and Bible Classes are maintained with energy, and some of them have experienced the special blessing of God.

CORTLAND.—In some churches there have been powerful revivals. In one instance, a regular course of visitation was determined on; but as the brethren went from house to house, they found the Lord had gone before them: many were already anxious, and some hopefully converted. In Homer, there was striking evidence of the power of God.

GRAND RIVER.—Uncommon harmony and internal peace prevail. The means of grace are maintained with ordinary interest and effect. Sabbath Schools and Bible Classes, and weekly prayer meetings are maintained. There are increased efforts to secure a settled ministry. The monthly concert, and contributions for benevolent objects, are unusually large in all the churches.

PORTEGE.—No special outpouring of the Holy Spirit has been experienced, except in one or two instances. In most of the congregations, the number attending public worship has increased; the regular preaching of the gospel has been enjoyed by most of the churches, though some are yet too feeble to maintain it.

ST. JOSEPH'S.—This Presbytery contains 24 churches, 13 ministers, 6 of whom are regular pastors. Seven churches have been formed, and three ministers installed the past year. Three churches have experienced revivals during the past year, and there have been more than 100 hopeful conversions. (The member who read the report stated, that since its date 150 more had been added to this number.) There had been some hopeful conversions in other churches, and indications were hopeful. Sabbath Schools and Bible Classes flourishing. In one church, the baptized children are assembled for catechetical instruction; and the same practice is about to be adopted generally. Maternal associations, temperance societies, and kindred objects, receive attention.

BATH.—God is drawing near, and giving signs of very general refreshing. These signs begin to be such as to encourage us to hope for a general visitation. In some of the churches, the cause of common schools is generally prosperously manifested. In visiting the school a short time afterwards, the pastor found most of them under deep impressions; some had been hopefully converted. The work was deep and silent—commencing in the outskirts, and drawing as in a circle, to the centre.

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DELAWARE.—The year has been free from striking incidents. Several churches have been blessed with revivals.

CHENMING.—The state of religion has been more cheering than in some former years. Several churches have enjoyed seasons of refreshing, and there has been a considerable recession of numbers. Great harmony prevails, Sabbath Schools and Bible Classes are extending.

ONTARIO.—During the year, the numbers attending on public worship has considerably increased, and the principles of the gospel are taking a firmer hold on the community. The cause of benevolence is steadily advancing. Sabbath Schools and Bible Classes are sustained with interest and success. The temperance cause is advancing. Revivals have been enjoyed in most of the churches; and some of them very powerful.

NIAGARA.—General peace and harmony prevail. In some churches there is now cheering evidence of the presence of the Divine Spirit in the conversion of sinners. The various efforts of benevolence are attended to. The number of youth in Sabbath Schools is considerable. The interest manifested in some of the schools make this as among the most important of our institutions.

BUFFALO.—Peace and harmony reign. The watchmen among us see eye to eye. No root of bitterness exists. Out of 23 churches, all but three have been more or less refreshed from the presence of the Lord; in some, in copious showers, and in others, the gentle dews; some, by means of protracted meetings, and others, under the ordinary means of grace.

ANGELICA.—This Presbytery has 22 churches, 12 ministers, 4 pastors, and 4 stated supplies; 1 evangelist, and 1 agent of the Bethel cause; and 8 are entirely destitute. In these

destitute churches, a state of moral death prevails. In seven churches, revivals have been experienced, and in five, very powerful. Between 100 and 200 have been added to the churches, and probably as many more will soon be added.

NEW YORK, 3d.—All the churches report highly improved state of religious feeling; and some report additions of from 20, 30, 50, 80, to 120. Besides these, there are many subjects of the work of grace, who have not united with the churches. Instances of conversion also reported as still occurring. Among the means employed have been weekly prayer meetings, seasons of fasting, tract distribution, preaching in the evening, all which have been over and blessed. Sabbath Schools and Bible Classes are generally maintained, and God has blessed the study of his word in these, leading to the conversion of the children and youth. Maternal associations have been blessed to the conversion of children. Female prayer meetings are generally sustained in the churches. Classes for catechetical instruction have been formed, in which the Assembly's Catechism is taught. The spirit of benevolence still lives. Many now give of their deep poverty, with tears of grief that they cannot give more.

NEWARK.—Several churches have been blessed with the gentle and silent operations of the Holy Spirit; and in some of them, the work of Divine grace has been powerful. It still continues. In some of the churches it has continued during the whole year. Large numbers have been added to the churches.

PHILADELPHIA, 3d.—The churches are walking in the fellowship of the gospel. Special tokens of Divine mercy have been manifest in most of them. An accession of nearly 500 members has been made to the churches which have been most signal blessings, and none of them have been left without some manifestation of the Holy Spirit, and some have shamed richly in the promised gift. Deep silence and seriousness, with a sense of personal ill desert and of God's claims, have characterized the work; and it has been marked by no irregularities or extravagances. Some of the convicts in the Eastern penitentiary have been hopefully converted. The cause of benevolence is well sustained, and Sabbath School, Bible Class, and catechetical instruction are particularly attended to.

MAUMEE.—The present has been a year of right hand of the Most High. The Spirit of the Lord has been poured out on the church, exerting even greater influence than ever. No pastor has been removed by the action of the Presbytery, while two have been installed. There has not been a general prevalence of revivals, yet God has not left us without witness. A number of churches have been blessed to the conversion of youth.

DETROIT.—When this presbytery was organized, the man of Sin regarded his footing in the peninsula of Michigan, as firm, if not invincible. Twenty years ago, there was not a Presbyterian or Congregational church in the whole peninsula, which is as large as New England. Now, there is one Synod, five presbyteries, and more than 100 churches. A spirit of prayer has prevailed, such as was never witnessed before. Many churches have been blessed with previous revivals. There have been not less than 500 hopeful conversions in five places. In Detroit, in a single Sabbath School, one hundred children and youth have been brought into the fold of Jesus.

TIGOGA.—All benevolent enterprises have received increased and encouraging support. The temperature is steadily advancing, on the principle of total abstinence. There is an increased attention to the religious education of the young. Sabbath Schools very prosperous. In most congregations there have been revivals. There is a generally a growing esteem for the love of stated pastors, and desire for greater permanency in that relation.

EVANGELICAL CONGREGATION OF RHODE ISLAND.—The congregation contains 16 churches, with 2300 members. Eight of these churches have been organized in a few years past. In several churches, there has been more than ordinary interest, and in all of them, additions by profession. Most of the benevolent enterprises of the day receive support. In every congregation, Sabbath Schools are maintained; and in several of them the Assembly's Catechism is used with increasing interest. In several towns, the tract distribution is maintained. Monthly concerts for missions, and for Sabbath Schools are very prosperous. In most congregations there have been revivals. There is a generally a growing esteem for the love of stated pastors, and desire for greater permanency in that relation.

GENERAL ASSOCIATION OF CONNECTICUT.—Dr. Taylor, made a statement respecting the state of religion in Connecticut. There have been, the past year, an unusual number of revivals of religion, many of them of signal power and happy results. Last year there were from 15 to 20. This year will be 25 to 30. The fruits of these, in different towns, may be estimated at from 50 to 100 in each. In Hartford, there are from 700 to 800. In that place, the work has been very powerful—not sudden, but continuous for many weeks nor do I know that it has yet subsided. Yale College is in its usual state of prosperity. The Theological Institution contains about 90 students. The Seminary at East Windsor contains about 30. The friends of Zion look to these seminaries with prayer, and hope that they may be blessed to the furnishing of an evangelical ministry.

SUMMARY OF REVIVALS.—The number of churches in which there have been revivals the past year, in the several presbyteries reported, have been as follows.

MEDINA.—This Presbytery has 13 churches, most of which have enjoyed the preaching of the gospel the whole or a part of the time, though some are still desolate. In two churches there have been revivals. To one feeble church, 30 have been added.

ERIE.—Good attention to the means of grace; considerable accession of members, and in a few cases the special outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

GRAND RIVER.—Uncommon harmony and internal peace prevail. The means of grace are maintained with ordinary interest and effect. Sabbath Schools and Bible Classes, and weekly prayer meetings are maintained. There are increased efforts to secure a settled ministry. The monthly concert, and contributions for benevolent objects, are unusually large in all the churches.

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NEWBURYPORT, 1. TROY 7, COLUMBIA 8, WATERTOWN 4, ONEIDA 4, GENEVA 11, CHEMUNG 7, CAYUGA 3, COLD SPRING 3, BATH 5, DELAWARE 1, CHEMUNG 5, ONTARIO 7, BUFFALO 24, PORTAGE 20, NEW YORK 32 20, NEW YORK 7, PHILADELPHIA 24 6, PORTAGE 2, MICHIGAN 6, CLEVELAND 3, MEDINA 2, ST. JOSEPH'S 3, ILLINOIS 4, CRAWFORDVILLE 1, SANGU 4, OTTAWA 3, CINCINNATI 8, PEORIA 10, ALTON 2, ST. LOUIS 4, MARSHAL 2, DETROIT 5, MONROE 4, TROY 5, CINCINNATI 1.

In thirty-five presbyteries reported, one hundred and sixty-three revivals. Surely we may say, "the Lord of hosts is with us, that God of Jacob is our refuge."

ALTON.—All the churches, with a single exception, have enjoyed the gospel stably, and are generally free from internal dissensions. In January, the Spirit was poured out with great power, and 50 added to the church.

ST. LOUIS.—Several churches have experienced seasons of refreshing, and many valuable accessions have been made to their numbers. The church in St. Louis has contributed to various benevolent purposes \$5,000, independent of \$2,000 for the support of the gospel among themselves. They have also resolved for organizing two new churches, and have subscribed for this purpose \$3,000. This church is in a very promising condition.

CLINTON.—During the past year, there has been a very perceptible advance. Several new churches have been organized. Family prayer is observed by all the heads of families. Most of the churches have been refreshed the past year; many of them doubled, and some trebled in numbers. Men of business have shut up their stores for days together, to attend religious meetings.

MARSHALL.—This presbytery covers almost six counties in Michigan. It was formed Feb. 21, 1838. Five churches have been organized since the formation of the presbytery. In some places, there have been revivals, and a general interest prevails in all the places.

PEORIA.—The spirit of benevolence still lives. Many now give of their deep poverty, with tears of grief that they cannot give more.

NEWARK.—Several churches have been blessed with the gentle and silent operations of the Holy Spirit; and God has blessed the study of his word in these. There have not been any subjects of the work of grace, who have not united with the churches. Instances of conversion also reported as still occurring.

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PEORIA.—

June 8, 1838.

He recently left his charge. He left, and was told that error and self-righteousness had prostrated him, compelled to say that he did not deserve the charge of the vacant church.

He is so intimately connected with the churches of this Commonwealth, and the men who stand at the door of education. Education Society, and these sign commissions and send men in parts of Zion. Why is it that nothing—once able to support the little gone down, and now have our bounty? I can see why the man. I verily believe, where the people ought to be, no church which for the gospel will ever decline. humble reliance on the Spirit of Missionary Society will furnish the feeble churches, and strengthen them and are ready to die.

REV. MR. COUCH,
entire consecration to Christ.

I have heard it said that this last word, and I think no man need call of God, as manifested in his to see that some great, wise, and existed in the mind of Jehovah, since such a nation as this. We possess of love to be carried into the churches of Christ in this believe it is the duty of every Christian to this end, that Jesus Christ is to reign of the Home Missionary Society. It is the belief that, by the educated and intelligent ministers, the when the spiritual rule of Emanuel.

We set seen the value of the gospel have been getting up a few more mines of gold. We believe presented on this land, with of a land redeemed. We believe when the rulers of this nation of Christ, looking to God for guidance to legislate and administer rules of righteousness. We believe, when neither the spirit of our spirit shall reign in the councils our congregations shall be a commanding influence we shall have anthropists, who will feel that this Christ.

These assertions, and while I relate my picture your Secretary inquire, is this a day of hope? prospects, when this nation, bold in vice? Shall we assert discover such strong tendency the looks scornfully at the work saying: "Even that which they shall even break down their surrounded by hundreds and thousands who look upon all our hopes to assert these things, when it is with forebodings of fearful, our oppression, and our curse we look at all these things, we done. These threatening may indicate the approach of the clouds which is to pass.

Prepared by the Home Mission accomplished; but we do not God intends to scourge us for upon us these rich blessings with the eye of faith we see which shall bring order out of darkness. We believe are bringing on these glorious assurances, let us receive them mission.

This work can be accomplished, b-

ut I mean not money—those who says the silver and where it is to be obtained. I like the children of Israel out of and carry them through the barren and difficult in feeding them in the midst of a crooked and selected his seventy disciples and sent them to take nothing for their food nor starve. When I speak of the word of Jehovah, and the spirit which is able to subdue

What fruits can stand upon the? Let Divine truth shine upon him, show him his true character, and his strength will fail him. By truth, and the Spirit accompany know, the foul spirit of treachery, with its hundreds and thousands. We look to that upon us from another part of them come—we have a gospel and we have a spirit of eternal fierce lion into the lamb. We of accomplishing this object.

We were all interested but (Rev. Mr. Baird,) told us. What did he mean? He said, and he said just what is the intent of his servants, has prom-

countries are open, and the heart of our continent is open, what the carrying out of the spirit of the church must have faith, and the that will show that they are of Christ. The church most ambition, pride, and avarice, all things but less for his sake, a strong faith in God, which and settled conviction that God will accomplish this work. We go forth in the spirit of the thing to be accounted a fool for the cross as the means by accomplish his work. The saving faith, we may anticipate the when our extended nation shall meet before God, with one

REV. MR. BACON,
same subject.

We must all feel very diffi-

all wise and needful efforts

in here, among the graves of nations and that faith which

It importance, in relation to the conversion of the world, to like, and the emancipation of

and the speedy and certain of Christ, must be vividly

these results are not to be ac-

plished merely by positive efforts, but also by the example. We are prone to think more of results of our efforts, than of the influence and of our example, shining as lights in the world.

The brother has given us an illustration of the example, as acting from community to community and nation to nation. It was not his mission turned the eyes of Europe to this country; it is great example—the new experiment in politics and liberty, which awakens hope and stimulates, when they look out upon us from among the reformation. So in regard to our own country. New England is to exert her influence upon the land, not merely by sending out missionaries, but keeping, at home, the light and power of her calling; then you see God hearing, answering that prayer. "They will be done."

After Mr. Bacon had sat down, an appropriate hymn was sung.

Rev. Mr. GROUT, missionary, recently from South Africa, introduced the second resolution.

Resolved, That the opening for missionaries in heathen lands, and the facilities which exist for introducing and disseminating the gospel there, while missionary candidates are detained in this country to cause adequate pecuniary means are not furnished to them forth and sustain them in their work, ought to lead the friends of Christ in this community to inquire whether they are performing their whole duty.

In this work, all New England is one, as in every other work; and I see around me familiar faces, all bear familiar voices, I feel at home. I feel that we in every part of New England are one, am forcibly reminded of the expression of an ancient missionary community, two hundred years ago, as were then departing for New Hampshire, to the north, setting forth their reasons for emigration, commenced by saying, "The Providence of God has combined these colonies, by sameness of manners. They are joined together to stand and fall, to grow and decay, to flourish and wither, to live and die together." Thus it is one, one, one, this one that runs through the churches planted by these men—the same trials, the same hopes, the same distresses—God grant that they may not be diverted by want of faith, courage and effort. N.

FOREIGN MISSION MEETING.

Morillo's Chapel, was full and running over on Thursday evening, to witness the exercises of the meeting, in behalf of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. John Tappan, Esq. presided. The services commenced with prayer, by Rev. Mr. Holmes, of New Bedford.

Rev. Mr. Green, one of the Secretaries of the Board, made a brief statement of the affairs of the Board and its Missions, which will be found on the first page of this paper.

The first resolution was offered by the Rev. Mr. TAYLOR, of New Haven, and was as follows.

Resolved, That the contributions to the treasury of the Board for the year, which, notwithstanding the engrossing of the commercial affairs of the country, exceeded those of any previous year, together with the generous assistance rendered by gentlemen of large funds, call for thanksgiving to God, and we desire to believe that the friends of Christ are beginning to act more intelligently and conscientiously in the work of missions; and that, relying on divine aid, they will hereafter prosecute it more vigorously, and on a more enlarged scale.

Resolved, That view of the state of religion in almost all the Christian nations of the European continent, and their political and moral condition, the Christian community of these United States ought to feel called upon in the providence of God, to bear a prominent part in spreading the knowledge of the gospel throughout the earth.

Mr. B. began by observing, that he should take up the third and last resolution.

Resolved, That view of the state of religion in almost all the Christian nations of the European continent, and their manner impressive. I fear, Mr. B., do not believe in any religion bearing the name of Christianity, which has not the spirit of Christ. It is the spirit which recognizes man as immortal. It is the spirit which recognizes every man a creature to be a partaker of God's nature; which beholds in every man a fallen creature.

The missionary enterprise in its present form, in its existing detail, is but the embodying of the spirit which is as old as the church. Tell me of that man in any age, said Mr. B., from the days of Adam to this hour, who has been baptized into the spirit of Christ. In Germany, out of the many Protestant ministers and churches in that country, there were few of an evangelical character; but it has pleased God to revive his work in all Europe. Not that there had been, what in America would be called revivals of religion, but there was a beginning of good things. I could show this, Mr. President, by stating facts, and I may have an opportunity of doing so, before leaving the city. For instance there is Spain, the door is opened in that kingdom. As to France, it is indeed a day of small things; still, God has raised up devoted ministers; and their number is fast increasing. Denmark, Sweden and other countries are awaking. The present aspect of things is in some respects different from the other two great periods of the reformation. It is the spirit which makes us practical; and hence it is, that when disastrous times come over the community, the spirit of missions is unshaken, but rises higher. It is because, the people are convinced by experiment, that the world can be converted by voluntary associations. It is one of those simple principles which astonish mankind as much by their simplicity as by their resistless energy. Once it was thought, that the work was for kings; but in these days, it has been discovered that one cannot do the work, can, and if not two then three. Without asking leave of king or parliament, the voluntary principle can effect the object.

The speaker, after having given an interesting notice of the Missionary School at Basle, in Switzerland, where there were forty young men preparing to be missionaries, and from which one hundred have already gone, called attention to the north part of Germany. Two institutions are there; one is an endowed establishment, and the other has been in operation only two or three years, having been created by the Missionary Society in Prussia. In the west of Germany, some pious and well educated young ministers in Hamburgh, have recently established an institution for missionary education. Denmark has also a similar institution. The king of that country, has sent out missionaries for four or five years; perhaps by the agency of their sailors, in the service of the church.

Mr. C. proceeded to speak of the disastrous influence exerted upon the discharged convicts, by the cold repulsion which they meet from their fellowmen. This he said was the principal cause of their relapsing into their former vicious practices. He knew, some of them were unworthy, but he knew very many, who, if encouraged, would make useful and respectable members of society. He could within the compass of a few miles, call to mind more than twenty individuals who were respectable members of churches. And this was because the hand of help and sympathy had been extended to them. When prisoners were discharged, he had always directed

the Alton Journal states on the authority of a gentleman from Oswego, that ten of the Pirates who

are equally soon verified. Every year, the returning missionaries tell us that it can be, that it is, realized: that the same spirit which inspires and sends up the petition "Thy will be done," is at work to answer the request. Who believes, Mr. Chairman, in the efficacy of prayer? The desire has gone up, daily, hourly, without ceasing. Is it not answered? Yes, all the springs of providence are moving at this prayer. When you see the pagan temples demolished, thrones cast down, and superstition fleeing to her dark caverns; then you see, the answer to prayer. Yes! and when you view springs of water gushing forth in the desert; when you see the Ethiopian stretching forth his hands, and the islands of the sea, calling; then you see God hearing, answering that prayer. "They will be done."

After Mr. Bacon had sat down, an appropriate hymn was sung.

Rev. Mr. GROUT, missionary, recently from South Africa, introduced the second resolution.

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Poetry.

From the Southern Christian Advocate.
"There remaineth therefore a rest for the people of God."

Heb. 4-5.

"Twas Sabbath morn.
The rising sun had cleared the mists of night,
And drunk the pearly skies that lightly bâld
The green earth's verdant breast. Upon his brow,
Radiant and bright, no shadowy cloud was cast.
But far and wide his golden beams he threw,
O'er loftiest mountain peaks, and rugged cliffs,
And smiling vales, and cultivated lands.
Enlivening with his smile the hearts of men.

Sweet day of rest!

Thou art the emblem of a brighter day;
A day that yet shall dawn, clear and serene,
Upon the servants of the living God;
Its points unmarked by time's rude diary,
No change shall pass upon the scene;
Which thou with them reveal. Our Sabbath here
Soon end; and time's rough current sweeps us on
Upon its fretting surf again—but then,
No rolling flood shall rise, no tempest lower:
No gathering cloud loom darkly o'er the sky;
No sight shall follow in the track of day.
That day shall never end. The impress of
Eternity is set upon its dawning.

When it shall rise, as from the grave of time,
On that bright morn, the gathered mists of years
That long have mantled o'er the brow of night
Shall be illumined; and the pure rays of light,
Fresh streaming from the unclouded face of God,
Shall shed their brightness up the rock-bound sky.

The curtains close; the dead shall burst their day.

The sounding chime revives, and God's own saints,
Clothed with immortal life, and crowned with joy,

This blessed truth shall ever realize.

"That unto them a rest henceforth remains."

Madison, Ga., Jan. 19, 1838.

E. L. W.

Education.

ADDRESS OF REV. MR. NASH,
At the Annual Meeting of the Boston Education
Society, May 29, 1838.

Mr. President.—I will not pay so soon a compliment to the intelligence and the correct principles of the audience before me, as to attempt to prove the necessity of the Christian ministry to the conversion and salvation of men; that without such a ministry the religion which came from heaven can neither be sustained nor extended in this lost world. If the proof of this needs to be attempted any where, it must be in some community which has shared less in the blessings of this divine institution than ourselves. If we and our fathers have been, under God, more indebted to any one thing than to all others for the temporal and spiritual blessings which have been so largely showered upon us, it is manifestly to the preaching of the gospel. This has been the grand instrument of making New England the admiration and envy of the world.

What then is the present condition of our nation with regard to this subject of fundamental, of vital importance? Proportioned to the degree in which this fair land is furnished with this essential means of moral and intellectual improvement, is its prospect of future prosperity and glory. With equal and unquestionable truth, the same may be said of all the nations under the sun. If it is important that men in our country or any where else, be made happy in time and forever, it is equally important that the gospel be preached to them. But at least one half of the teeming population of this nation are destitute of any competent hands to break to them the bread of life. This deficiency is every year becoming greater and greater, at a most fearful rate. While about half a million of souls are added to our nation annually, the number of competent teachers is augmented only in about half that proportion. A similar disproportion between the increase of our population and of Christian ministers, has been experienced for the last half century. Have we not then most urgent need of effort to prevent this extension of moral desolation in the land? How does it threaten our dearest interests? What shall hinder it from sweeping away our national liberties? What prevents it from blotting out every thing among us that is fair, and lovely and of good report? What Christian, what patriot can view this state of things without concern? Who can avoid the feeling that he is called upon to do all in his power to check this rapid undermining of every valuable institution, on which our nation must rely for safety and for happiness? Who does not know that we have no surety for all which we hold most dear, any longer than the fear of God shall exist among us?

But, Sir, our concern must not be confined to our own land. The church in America is a debtor to the world. The great end which every member of this church should propose to himself in living, is the conversion of the world from sin to God. How little has yet been done towards accomplishing this magnificent object.

But little more than one Christian minister to a million of souls has yet gone to preach the unsearchable riches of Christ to the people who are in the region and shadow of death.

If we take into view the whole population of the globe, there are not on earth one thirty-

part so many Christian ministers as are requisite to its being supplied with the bread of life.

It is a circumstance of great interest and moment that multitudes in the dark places of the earth are beginning to feel the exigencies of their condition, and to stretch out their hands unto God. What means this stir among the nations? What mean the heart-rending cries for the waters of salvation, which are wafted on every breeze from the pagan world? Surely they are adapted to break the slumbers of the Christian community, to show them that a great work must soon be done for perishing pagans, and that they ought to lose no time in preparing the proper instruments to do it.

Never before since the days of the Apostles, has there been such an opening and such a demand for missionary labor in heathen lands.

The harvest of the world is evidently ripe.

How pressing the demand for a vast increase of laborers fitted to gather this harvest.

But shall I be reminded that there are among us ministers not employed in their appropriate work? that there are also in the country those who would go forth to the heathen, waiting only that the means of sending and sustaining them may be provided? Will it hence be claimed that we are supplied with as many ministers as are needed, and that whatever necessity there might once be of special effort in this cause, this necessity no longer exists?

Will it be thought from the facts before us, that the time in which Education Societies were needed is gone by, and that the Christian public is no longer called on to sustain these institutions? Mr. President, a comprehensive view of our country and of the world is all which is needed to show that all impressions of this kind are like the baseless fabric of a vision; that there has been no time when a more urgent call has existed for vigorous, per-

severing effort to augment the number of them who publish the gospel of peace. Ministers enough! No longer needful to urge and assist young men of piety and talents to prepare for the sacred office! Then have all the wide wastes of this apostate world become as the garden of the Lord? Has the grand jubilee of the world begun to be celebrated? Strange that a conclusion so inconsistent with the present state of the nations, and derived from the premises which I have stated should be entertained for a moment. But some ministers have no work to do. And what then? Delicacy and kindness forbid me to say what. Ask the fathers, who have toiled long in the vineyard of their Lord, whether there have not always been supernumeraries in our profession, and whether when the American Education Society was organized, twenty-three years ago, they were deemed any reason why this institution should not come into existence? The number of ministers out of employment then was not less than at present. I have heard the statement, that the number belonging to this class around the metropolis of New England has, within a few years, been sensibly diminished. But whether many or few belong to it, plainly if their existence was no good reason twenty-three years ago, why the Education Society should not be formed, it is no better reason now why it should not be sustained. But to diminish the number of individuals trained for the ministry is far from being a sure way of clothing all who are trained for it with the pastoral office. If there were only one quarter of the present number of ministers in the country, you believe, Sir, there would be none out of employ.

But where are these brethren destined to find their way into the priest's office, whether that they may eat a piece of bread or win souls to Christ, I am unable to decide? We have not certainly to travel far before you will get beyond the bounds of their habitation. I lately visited one of the western counties in this State, and found one third of the congregational churches there destitute of pastors. Often was the anxious inquiry put to me, where can we find a minister? A short time since, an individual, inquiring for spiritual laborers, stated to me, that in a circle of forty miles' diameter, partly in Vermont and partly in New York, twenty such laborers are wanted. But there are ministers in the country who have nothing to do. Yes, three years I have seen a statement, that in the great valley of the West, eight ministers were once present in the same worshipping assembly. To this it was added, that five of them were so illiterate they could not read the Bible in the English language. How far such statements go to supersede the necessity of the efforts of Education Societies in a region where there is only one Presbyterian minister to twenty-five thousand souls, this audience need not me to inform them. Nor can any man who understands the subject, imagine there is in any part of the land such as this with such ministers as the times demand.

But I have told where the supernumeraries of our profession are not, rather than where they are. Unhappily for our cause they are in those parts of the country where we must look for the principal support of Education Societies; in the cities and the villages along the Atlantic coast. That ministers as well as other men should prefer the refinement, the comforts, the elegancies which they here find, to the privations, the self-denial, the hardships which must be encountered in other situations, is perfectly natural. Observe, I am far from saying this is right; that it is as Christ did, or as he would have his professors do. May I speak on the honest convictions of my heart. The whole spiritual community falls immensely below the example which the Saviour has left it. It is removed by immeasurable degrees from the standard of holiness and of effort at which it requires to it aim. Let none of us seem to utter censure upon others which we are not willing to take ourselves. Ah! before this world can be converted, we must have other Christians and other ministers than those whom we have hitherto seen. We must have Christians who shall pray more and live nearer to God, and think less of their own interests and more of their Maker's glory. We must have ministers who are willing to live in obscurity, and to work for their Lord and Master, without the observation and the applause of mortals; men willing to labor hard, and, if need be, live poor; patiently waiting till the great rewarding day for the recompence of their labors. Were all Christ's ministers of this character, how much more piety and liberality would there be in the church; how much more frequent, more pure, more lasting would be our revivals of religion. Were all Christ's ministers of this character, I shall not attempt to tell how much smaller would be the company of supernumeraries in some parts of the country. I repeat the statement, there never was a time, since the Saviour died on the cross, when the need of effort to increase ministers of this description was greater than present.

That after a call so long and so loud for men for all which we hold most dear, any longer than the fear of God shall exist among us?

At the same time who can imagine this will be found to exist in any greater extent than the land?

How does it threaten our dearest interests?

What shall hinder it from sweeping away our national liberties?

What prevents it from blotting out every thing among us that is fair, and lovely and of good report?

What Christian, what patriot can view this state of things without concern?

Who can avoid the feeling that he is called upon to do all in his power to check this rapid undermining of every valuable institution, on which our nation must rely for safety and for happiness?

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